

Homeowner Shoots at Suspect Burglarizing His House



Robert L. Jefferson

Presented by Public Information Officer, Master Corporal Gary Fournier

Laurel – Troopers, with the assistance of Laurel Police Department, have arrested a 44-year-old Laurel man in connection with a burglary in which he was shot at.

The incident occurred around 2:30 p.m. Thursday October 27, 2016 when troopers were dispatched to a residence in the 12000 block of Chipmans Pond Road for a report of a burglary. Upon their arrival, the 78-year-old male victim explained that he had just returned to his house when he observed black car in his driveway and damage to a window with some of his property lying underneath. Once inside the residence, the victim observed more property lying on the floor near the damaged window. He was quickly startled by a male subject, who was later identified as **Robert L. Jefferson**, 44 of Laurel, running through the house carrying some of his property.

The victim grabbed his 12 gauge shotgun and began searching for the suspect in his house, making several announcements that he was armed. The homeowner then saw Jefferson running through his yard towards his (Jefferson's) vehicle. Once he entered the car, the victim fired one birdshot round at the car, shattering the passenger's side window. The suspect was able to drive away from the residence in an unknown direction.

A general bulletin was put out over the radio with a description of the vehicle, which was soon located in the parking lot of the Laurel Food Lion by officers from Laurel Police Department. The officers observed Jefferson entering the store and were able to locate him hiding in the rear of the store where he was taken into custody without incident. He was turned over to troopers at the scene and transported to Nanticoke Memorial Hospital where he was treated and released with a minor abrasion to his back that may have been caused by one of the pellets.

Robert Jefferson was then transported to Troop 4 in Georgetown where he was charged with Burglary 2nd, Possession of Burglary Tools, Theft Under \$1500 Where a Victim is 62 or Older, and Criminal Mischief. He was arraigned at JP2 and committed to Sussex Correctional Institution on \$5,000.00 secured bond.

The victim has not been charged with any crime.

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